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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Bonnert, T. P.		
Serial No.:	09/445,614	Case No.:	T1481
Filed:	December 8, 1999	Art Unit:	
For:	HUMAN VANILLOID RECEPTOR-LIKE RECEPTOR	Examiner:	Brannock, M.

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By Merck Date 12/22/03

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2002, having a three (3) month shortened statutory period for reply set to expire on December 22, 2002.

In the event that there are any additional fees associated with this Amendment, they may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

In response to the Office Action of September 22, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments made to the Drawings are explained on page 3 of this paper, and Replacement Sheets are included in an Appendix that is attached to this response.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

The Amendment is accompanied by an Appendix which comprises Replacement Sheets of the Drawings and a sequence alignment labeled as Exhibit A.